

IN-REACH & OUT-REACH IDEAS



Note: We have listed a few ideas young people can organize during CME World Youth Day. Allow them to be as creative as they can. Share with us the ideas your team created.

Host a School Supplies Drive

Organizing a school supply drive is a great way to help families in need from the church or the community. Make a list of the standard supplies needed for a school year for each grade. Also, make a list of the children that will receive the donations. Then, the youth group can collect donations from the church. They can also organize special events like bake sales or yard sales to raise funds.

Organize a Church Service in the Park

How about having a nice day at the park and using it to spread the Gospel message? Young adults and teenagers will be excited to organize an outdoor worship service. Music can attract the attention of passersby and draw them close. They may be more likely to approach a church service in the park than they would if it were in the church building.

Volunteer for Vacation Bible School

A whole week of Vacation Bible School is a lot of work, but it is a great church outreach idea. The VBS leaders will appreciate having the youth group's extra help. Get the teenagers and young adults involved in activities according to their age and experience. Also, have them promote the event locally and on social media to reach the neighborhood kids.

Teach Technology Classes

The young members of the church are usually tech-savvy. Why not use those talents to bless and reach out to the local community? Contact the community members, starting at the church, and make a list of their technology needs. Then, the youth leaders can choose volunteers to prepare and teach classes to address those needs.

Organize a Tech Support Day

Once a month, the youth ministry can help the elderly and other non-tech-savvy church members with issues they're having on their tech devices. That may include people from the local community and senior centers as well. The young people from the church can help with setting up their smartphones or computers, solving issues, showing them how to use apps, etc.

PRAYER WALK AT A LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL

Meet your students at their school and walk around campus, praying for lost students and that God would give your teens greater Gospel influence at school. Add time for lunch and use it to ask your students about their fears or insights on sharing the Gospel. This event doesn't need a ton of planning—you could even do it during your normal youth group time. [Read more about NNYM's ideas on praying at school campuses.](#)

Start a Community Garden

If you have a large area available for planting, the youth group can use it for a community garden. They will need someone with experience to supervise them and proper tools and materials. Working together in a community garden helps build personal relationships. When the time comes to harvest, they can donate the produce to a local food bank or families in need.

Run Errands for Elderly and Disabled People

The youth ministry can volunteer to help elderly and disabled people in the church and the community with their errands. Young adults can buy groceries for them, bring packages to the post office, take them to a doctor's appointment, drive them to visit other family members, and so on. This sort of activity can help create an intergenerational bond with them.

Host a "Fun Day at the Church" for Children

Once a month, invite parents of the church and the community for a free childcare day at the church. Organize activities for the children to keep them entertained and to minister to them. In the meantime, parents can run errands or do whatever they need to do, including getting some rest. That can be especially helpful for single parents.

Organize a Movie Night

You can use movie night sessions to discuss relevant issues with young people. It doesn't have to be a Christian movie. Choose a clean and age-appropriate movie that raises subjects for debate and offers life lessons. Prepare questions in advance to invite comments. Encourage church members to bring their non-Christian friends as well.

Organize a Service Day

Offer a free workday to serve people in need in your community. It may be an elderly couple

or widow, a disabled person, a family in need, and so on. The youth group may recommend people they met in other outreach activities and how the young volunteers can help them. They can provide simple services like doing household chores, yard work, minor repairs, grocery shopping, mowing the lawn, etc.

Host a Neighborhood Block Party at the Church

A block party is an excellent community event that you can use to reach out to non-Christian families in your neighborhood. The whole church can be involved. There can be food, drinks, sports, competitions, live music, etc. Make sure to get the young people involved in all stages, from planning to each activity on the big day.

Organize a Community Picnic

Food is a great way to get people together. The youth ministry can organize a picnic at a city park as a get-together for the church families or as an outreach event for the community. Make sure to include activities that can help people bond, like games and sports. Choose activities for all ages, from children to the elderly, so that everyone will have a good time.

Organize a Ice Cream Outreach

Ice cream isn't super appetizing when it's freezing outside, but it's always a favorite treat in the summertime. This summer, pick a month to challenge your students with an "Ice Cream Outreach" initiative. The challenge is to take one unsaved friend out for ice cream at some point during the month, to ask intentional questions, and start a Gospel conversation.

Organize a Prayer Day

Every community has critical needs. Through your outreach efforts, it becomes easier to identify those needs. Besides planning specific activities to address them, consider having the youth ministry organize a prayer day or a vigil. They will learn to trust God with those necessities before doing anything else. They will also give an example of faith for the whole community.